# The Fisherman's Network

St. Andrews United Methodist Church
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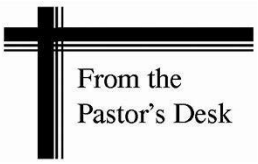
***Our Mission:*** *"To Show, Share and Grow in God's Love, through Jesus Christ."*
***Our Vision:*** *"Believe in God, Follow Jesus, and Serve Others."*

## April 2026 Newsletter




We are Easter people. Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed. We begin April with the gospel news of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. He seals the eternal life for us, believers.

God's love is clearly displayed sending Jesus to suffer for our sins, dies, and then the triumphant resurrection. That is the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

What a great celebration on April 5th we will have this month and every Sunday is Easter Sunday.

We are reminded that the gift of salvation and eternal life is for all people irrespective of color, class, culture, and creed. We proclaim that full life is restored on Easter day.

This world is full of death- wars, disasters, sickness, loss of work, depression, and anxiety. Jesus brings new life into every situation we face.

God accepted the perfect sacrifice of Jesus the lamb. Now humans are reconciled with God, our maker. Let us with passion share this good news with our neighbors, family members, and coworkers.

Beloved, let this be our prayer: spiritual and numeric growth. AMEN.

Happy Easter!

Blessings,
Pastor Serufusa

## *St. Andrews Music Notes*

"The lyrics to the hymn say what you couldn't but wanted to, and for a moment, a splendid moment, there are no wars, wounds, or tax returns. Just you, God, and a silent assurance that everything is right with the world." This was taken from the Max Lucado Sunday School book we are presently studying. How often do we really listen to our hymn lyrics? Music touches my heart in my good times and my times when worry tries to take over my life. God has blessed us with music and I am thankful. Thank you to the Faithful Ringers and our director, Brian Langmyer for his leadership. Thank you to our choir for the dedication and hours spent learning new music. Thank you to Mukisa for accompanying our choir. Thank you to Mugabi for enhancing our music each Sunday by playing his guitar. We are indeed a congregation that has been blessed.

We are planning to look at faithful women of the Bible on Mother's Day (May 10) and faithful men of the Bible on Father's Day (June 21). Please join us on May 24th after church for cake and fellowship in celebration of Pentecost Sunday. We will also observe Memorial Day Sunday the same day.

We will be looking for people willing to share their musical talents for special music during the July/ August months when the choirs take a short break. Please see me to schedule special music.

Blessings to all for a Happy Easter!

Lisa Shives,
Worship & Music Director

## *in April*

Apr 02 - 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service at Emmanuel UMC
Apr 03 - 6:00 pm Meal before Good Friday Service
Apr 03 - 7:00 pm Good Friday Service at St. Andrews UMC
Apr 04 - 8:30-11:00 am Potato Drop
Apr 05 - Easter Sunday Service
Apr 09 - 10:00 am Bible Study begins
Apr 15 - May newsletter articles are due
Apr 16 - 10:00 am Bible Study
Apr 18 - Fellowship Hall in use all day
Apr 19 - Native American Ministries Sunday
Apr 21 - 9:00 am – 12:30 pm Judy Center uses Fellowship Hall
Apr 23 - 26 Pastor attends Kairos Ministry
Apr 28 - 7:00 pm Church Council meets

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### UMM Potato Project
### April 4, 2026

The United Methodist Men of St. Andrews UMC will host a potato drop in the church parking lot at 1020 Maryland Ave, Hagerstown on April 4, from 8:30 am to 10:30 am. We will be offering 50-pound bags of Maine potatoes to organizations and smaller bags to individuals in need.

To reserve one or more bags of potatoes, or to help distribute them on April 4, please contact John Davidson at 301-730-7359, write him at davidjoh@myactv.net or use the sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex at the church.

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## Notes on Finances...

As we move into April, our sanctuary is set for the Easter season. It is truly moving to see people preparing their hearts to celebrate the Resurrection. That spirit of renewal is exactly what we need as we look toward the season ahead.

First and foremost, thank you. Our Lenten services are not only spiritually uplifting but also a testament to this community's generosity. While the joy of Easter is high, we want to share a candid update on our current financial landscape. Transparency is a vital part of our stewardship, and we want to ensure every member is informed.

Currently, our monthly expenses exceed our regular income. While we have been able to bridge the gap by spending down our checking account, this is not a sustainable long-term strategy for our mission. While one-time gifts during holidays like Easter are wonderful boosters, our "daily bread"—the ministries, the staff, and the upkeep of our spiritual home—relies on regular monthly giving. Consistency allows us to plan for the future with confidence. If you haven't already, please consider setting up recurring online giving with Vanco. It is the most effective way to ensure your support reaches the church even when life gets busy or you're away for the weekend.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Siebert, Finance Chairperson and Treasurer

**St. Mark's Food Bank:**
We are thankful for the 22 boxes of cereal and 20 other items donated

to St. Mark's Food Bank! This is a difficult time for many families to keep food on their tables. Every food item shared is feeding someone in our community.

**Bester Elementary School:**
The children at Bester received 228 individual snack packs in March. Each time they are delivered, we get a grateful thanks from the staff. Thank you for supporting the children of Bester!

A Prayer from Bread for The World:
"O CHRIST, you gave your life on the cross to overcome evil and injustice. May your abundant love inspire those who volunteer and work in food pantries and other feeding programs in my community.
May they offer both kindness and respect to those who depend on the food they provide. Amen."

**REACH Cold Weather Shelter:**
On March 14th we provided 8 bags of supplies to the shelter before dinner was cooked and served by John Davidson and helpers. Your time and gifts were given with love for our neighbors. Thank you!

**HEAD START of Washington County, Inc. :**
Dear Donor, "Thank you very much for your generous donation to our Hats and Gloves collection for our Head Start children. It is important to us to ensure each Head Start child is given these clothing items and the opportunity to be warmer throughout the winter...
On behalf of myself, our staff and most especially, the children and families served by Head Start of Washington County, please accept our greatest appreciation."
Sincerely, Vicki Robinson (Executive Director

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## St. Andrews' UMC Members Active in the Community Sharing God's Love at the REACH Meal

What a great time we had cooking and serving the evening meal to REACH Cold Weather Shelter individuals on Saturday, March 14th. This was the third time in a year and a half that we have provided the meal so we are, to quote someone there, "a well-oiled machine."

Dave Seibert and Tom Boschert got the warming table ready for the fried chicken. Katie Jenkins got busy making the stuffing, while Jenny Timmons whipped up the mashed potatoes. Cindy Langymyer stood over the stove whisking the gravy until there were no lumps and it was smooth and creamy. Phyllis Ernde made green beans with ham and Joyce McClanathan sliced and buttered the rolls. Tom and Dave dipped up the applesauce and John Davidson got the drinks ready and the tables set. Cathy Davidson served the decorated cupcakes made and donated by Lisa Shives. We give each individual eating their meal a small *Jesus Loves You* figurine. A couple individuals asked for more than one to give to someone else they knew.

After the meal, we were responsible for cleaning up the kitchen. Dave has become a pro operating the industrial dishwasher. He made quick work of getting all the trays, utensils, glasses and pans cleaned.

The best part of the evening was the laughter and camaraderie of all the workers and more importantly the blessing it was to each one of us to see the happy faces of those eating the meal we provided. The many people who said bless you and thank you during the evening touched our hearts.

Thank you to each one of you for giving up your Saturday evening to serve the Lord by feeding the hungry. Thank you to the individuals who donated money to defray the cost of the food and to Lisa for donating the cupcakes again this year.

***Our crew of volunteers: (Left to right) Joyce McClanathan, Dave Seibert, John Davidson, Cathy Davidson, Tom Boschert, Jenny Timmons, Katie Jenkins, Cindy Langmyer, and Phyllis Ernde.***